The State Training Guidelines Workgroup is a subcommittee to the Policy Committee of the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards. The purpose of the workgroup is reviewing and recommending training guidelines for support staff working in all types of support and service settings including, but not limited to, residential direct support staff. The workgroup is comprised of representatives from the Mental Health Association of Training (MHAT), the Provider Alliance, Provider agencies representing Developmental Disability and Mental Health/Illness services, Community Mental Health agencies, parents and guardians, Department of Community Health (MDCH), Department of Human Services (DHS), and other stakeholders.

The intended use of these statewide training guidelines is for the development and presentation of training content. The attached documents include a flowchart of training for people providing direct support and curriculum guides which identify training topics, competencies, content, trainer qualifications, suggested length, and format.

The flowchart illustrates training requirements and options based on work setting and the needs of persons served. The guidelines were designed to address concerns related to reciprocity, uniformity, and the flexibility to stay current in an ever-changing environment. The legal requirements of the various oversight agencies were cross-referenced and included within the guidelines. These include licensing requirements for AFC. Curricula based on these guidelines will contribute to statewide uniformity, reciprocity, and portability.

These documents are to be used for educational purposes only and may not be copied and resold for profit or compensation. These guides have been endorsed by the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Michigan Department of Human Services, and the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards. They are intended as training tools for the benefit of persons who work with people receiving services through the Community Mental Health system. They are intended to be considered best practices.